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Wednesday March 12, 2003

The Underground

Memories of Kingwell

The Women's Centre Revisited

SAC Elections

UTSC's student Newspaper since

Volume 22, Issue 22

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Deadline for applying for residence is Friday, March 14 at 5pm.

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Memories of Kingwell

"Don't you just hate it when you open the fridge there's nothing but caviar and champagne?" Although fourth year student Katarina Kuruc may not have remembered anything else about that lecture, she certainly remembered when Dr. Mark Kingwell, one of U of T's most memorable and well-known philosophy professors, made this comment during one of her classes, about the state of his fridge.

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The Women's Centre Revisited

A few weeks ago, I met with Kinzi, the Women's Centre co-ordinatior to discuss what goes on at the SCWC. What I discovered was that there are a lot of misconceptions that surround the SCWC. In fact, I'm not sure that many students actually know what happens in the Women's Centre.

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The Underground

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Submissions become the property of **The Underground** and may or may not be published at the whim of *The Editorial Board*. *The Board* reserves the right to poke fun at submissions, post them on the wall in **The Underground**'s snazzy portable (for the enjoyment of our staff and guests) or alter them in print in any way provided it is so acknowledged. By submission, authors implicitly bow down to the total editorial control of *The Editorial Board* and freely consent to the addition witty comments and criticisms (especially in the case of libelous or malicious submissions) courtesy of the snarky editors.

For a more official-sounding **Letters and Opinions Policy** contact ***undergnd@utsc.utoronto.ca***

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editorial

If you're like me, you can only stomach the election season for about 3 days, and then you're ready to crawl back into your shell and let the powers-that-be toil away on student centres and referendums and budgets and other things that are drier than toast.

Except that this year I'm way too pissed off to just let it go... The SCSU deliberately arranged the schedule for both its elections and its "One UTSC" plebiscite so as to minimise the potential for student debate (not to mention media coverage!) The "One UTSC" Town Hall forum that was held last Tuesday, is a case in point. SCSU hadn't even considered holding such a forum until a group of angry students demanded that it happen. When it did, it took place at the last possible moment, on the shortest possible notice. But then again, from the point of view of the SCSU, it makes total sense; why inform students about the issue when you could just spoon-feed them a 'Yes' campaign that has no real details whatsoever? I mean, most of us didn't even know what the heck a 'plebiscite' was until it was sprung on us a few weeks ago. It all seems innocuous enough, until you try to find out what exactly SCSU plans to do once they've got the results of that mighty plebiscite clutched in their sweaty fists. Most signs point to either a hostile takeover of SAC's UTSC wing, or perhaps just an usurping of some of its representational duties. But its hard to see how the SCSU replacing SAC gives UTSC students **more** representation. Looks to me like its just **different** representation. SCSU accuses SAC of neglecting UTSC students' voice, but then again, SCSU's track record isn't so hot either.

In fact, this year has been particularly poor when it comes to SCSU's communication with students. For a student union that spends so much money on PR, they sure don't seem to understand that an advertising campaign, whether its for a Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) referendum or a "One UTSC" plebiscite, isn't really the best way to go about informing students. Actually, the advertising that SCSU produced for those ballots was so one-sided and so incomplete that it was really more like **mis**information.

In the case of that CFS referendum, the only information available to students was a series of posters, stickers and pamphlets that were all produced by CFS. Now even if we were to pretend that CFS didn't have a vested interest in having U of T (and its 40 000 students, contributing over $500 000 in annual fees to CFS) join its federation, voting in that referendum was a lot more like buying some gadget off an infomercial. High pressure sales tactics plus one-sided information plus friendly smiling faces and endorsement from a celebrity (or some schmuck from SCSU) equals one ultra-elaborate potato peeler collecting dust in your kitchen cupboard.

I'm not feeling all that well-represented by our student union. Well maybe its time to give SCSU a bit of key information. This may be a representative democracy, but just because you hold an elected office, doesn't mean that you represent us. Nope. That's the thing kids, you gotta keep in touch with us little people and make sure that you **keep** representing us. Public forums, opinion polls and just plain old-fashioned chit-chat can help a student politician keep a line on 'the street'. That means you Bandurka. All signs point to you taking a second term in the President's chair. That means you've got a shot at making good on public consultation, one of your weaker points, you have to admit. No more executive decisions behind closed doors. Lots more emails to allstudent s@utsc.utoronto.ca. Something else that might make a keen addition to the SCSU's nifty new website would be a twice weekly Presidential Diary. Let the people know what you're up to Dan, and I'm not talking about those trips to the Fossil.

And because elections season isn't over by a long shot, there's still this thing about the SAC elections. Just because you voted 'Yes' in that accursed plebiscite, doesn't mean that you can kiss these silly bastards goodbye just yet. And because we want to help you be fine upstanding citizens, we managed to interview the SAC executive candidates that were kind enough to spend a few minutes after the election forum chatting with the lowly students of UTSC. In brazen *Underground* fashion, we played some mind-games with the candidates, and found out few things: 1) None of these would-be SACers are communists. 2) A few of them have actually been to UTSC before, and can even (sort of) talk about things that are important to us, i.e. clubs funding, and the ridiculous amount of money we send downtown every year. 3) None of them (surprisingly) had ever been arrested. See page __ for more SAC elections coverage.

Chris McKinnon
Editor-in-Chief

letters

An Open Letter to the CRO, SCSU Elections

To M. Dagonas
and
Whom it may concern:

I'm unsatisfied with the question presented in the March 5-6 plebescite, and am furthermore dissatisfied with SCSU's measures to repair such confusion and discontent as was voiced both at the March 4th forum, and at the March 4th SCSU board meeting.

At the forum, SCSU staff were NOT able to A) clarify the implications or motives behind the plebescite, nor B) convince me that they themselves knew the implications or meaning of the plebescite.

Furthermore, the SCSU representatives at the forum directly contradicted in their explanations of its meaning the question itself: whereas the question asks about "consolidation" of representation, the SCSU directly and repeatedly assured myself and the auditorium at the forum that it did not mean "consolidation", but "supplementation" of representation. How can SCSU ask a question that apparently (with repeated assurances) does not mean what it says it means?

I would ask that SCSU hold themselves accountable to their constituents, and consider transparency and forthrightness in consulting their students. If this plebescite is about the issue of SCSU-SAC integration/amalgamation, then it is the duty of SCSU to ask that question. Students cannot be expected to answer a convoluded question with non-specific rhetoric as preamble, nor should SCSU take the results of such plebescite seriously, when students may not want to vote yes OR no, yet have no avenue of abstention.

Sincerely,

Andrew Tyler

mailto: undergnd@utsc.utoronto.ca
subject: letters

"Art doesn't want to be familiar. It wants to astonish us. Or, in some cases, to enrage us. It wants to move us. To touch us. Not accommodate us, make us comfortable."
- Jamake Highwater

From the CRO, SCSU Elections

Whereas Article 4.01.08: Duties of the CRO, found within SCSU - University of Toronto By-Law No. 2, the Chief Returning Officer will rule on all issues pertaining to the organization and administration of the elections.

In light of recent and ongoing debate about the plebiscite at UTSC, I am writing to convey to all students further information regarding the implications of the aforementioned vote.

Thank you for participating in the democratic process at UTSC and please continue to make informed decisions about the future of your campus.

As it stands, within the political structure currently in place at the University of Toronto, SAC, APUS and GSU all share high levels of representation on the St. George campus compared to SCSU.

The spirit of the plebiscite, **while it is a non-binding process**, gives an opportunity to SCSU to join those said student organizations as equals. According to SCSU, the plebiscite would serve as a tool to begin to address UTSC issues more directly.

SCSU's intentions are to increase student positions on official decision-making bodies at the University and lobby for greater representation of UTSC student concerns with the central administration.

It is therefore the recommendation of the CRO that:

1) Notwithstanding the results of the plebiscite, SCSU continue to consult with UTSC students about issues that directly affect them..

2) Notwithstanding the results of the plebiscite, SCSU proceed to further engage students about the ramifications of the outcome, whether YEA or NAY.
3) That only with a majority of YES votes will there be justification for a mandate to pursue SCSU intentions.
4) These aforementioned intentions are to consult the student body in a referendum next Fall seeking more specific changes to the current political representation and resource allocation in favour of a stronger SCSU.

Let it be noted, that a decree by the Elections Committee as of Tuesday, March 4th 10 p.m. found it inappropriate to cancel or delay the scheduled plebiscite voting times.

I hope this addresses the concerns of students throughout the campus and I hope to render a fair and transparent election process at the onset. My wish is for students to make an informed decision, but a decision nevertheless. The aftermath of the results will fall to the hands of SCSU.

Mathieu Pierre Dagonas, Chief Returning Officer

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Notice of Elections
SCARBOROUGH COLLEGE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Scarborough College Athletic Association (SCAA)
is holding elections March 26 and 27, 2003.
All interested candidates can pick up information and nomination forms at the SCAA office R-240. Nomination deadline is Monday, March 17 at 16:00 h (4:00PM).
A mandatory candidates meeting will be held at the SCAA office Friday, March 14 at 13:00 h (1:00PM)

Some late comments about the recent SCSU plebiscite, from SAC Scarborough

and responses from the SCSU

The Underground sought comment from SAC Scarborough with regards to last week's plebiscite. Unfortunately, SAC's reply was not in time to make last week's issue. Here, shaded in gray, are a few comments from SAC UTSC's Chair, Parminder Singh.

Parminder's comments are followed by further responses from Karim Bhanji, SCSU's Vice President of Academics, *in italics*.

The entire exchange is unedited.

UG: What is SAC's position on the plebiscite?

Parminder Singh: SAC's position is asking students to vote No.

SCSU has alleged that SAC fails to adequately represent UTSC students to Governing Council, and U of T Administration... Are these allegations true?

Parminder Singh: These allegations are false, the main problem has been that there has never been constructive communication between SAC and SCSU. I believe both of the councils are at fault of this. SAC has represented UTSC students at GC on such cases as the student Centre, SAC was supporting SCSU each step of the way. Yes, SAC did not support SCSU's Zoom Media Project "putting advertisements in our washrooms" because we, along with other councils on campus felt this was intrusion of our privacy. SCSU did not have any discussions with other student associations on campus and in fact fed this (Zoom Media) to councils on campus as means of extra club funding.
I do agree that 3yrs ago SAC was not in a good position at all at UTSC, but we have come a long way since. Just as SCSC has now become SCSU, SAC has made significant changes to their by-laws to encompass the needs of the East/West Campuses and especially UTSC.

Karim Bhanji: *These allegations are completely true. SCSU and SAC agree that the SAC Scarborough commission is not well versed on what is going on at UTSC, yet each group casts blame on the other for why this happens. Both groups agree that the system needs to be fixed, but cannot agree on how that is going to happen. However, whatever anyone says about the situation and whoever is to blame, SCSU is the group that deals with UTSC issues day in, day out. The system of student representation through SAC is broken. SCSU is considering moving UTSC students onto the same level as SAC, APUS, and GSU. Of course, this does not affect the UTSC presence within SAC and APUS, only those groups can make decisions about changes within their organizations. What they would lose is the ability to say they "officially" represent UTSC students.*
As for the Zoom Media item, I agree it is a contentious item. As for the allegation that there was no discussion, I would have to disagree. I remember, when I was treasurer of L'Association Francaise (2000-2001), being at a clubs meeting where there was lots of discussion on this subject. A number of people spoke in support of it because of reasons including increases in club funding, more money for SCSU to put into services and advocacy, or simply because it was not an issue for them. Some people also spoke against it, with very good reasons regarding commercialization, forced viewing in washrooms, dependency on this funding once we get used to having it, academic institution, etc. As a club executive I was persuaded by both arguments and really sat on the fence, I knew SCSU needed more money to operate effectively but I did not like having more commercial advertising in the school. But ignoring my own stance, the majority of the people there were supportive of the idea. That is my experience with the consultation, but I wouldn't be surprised if there was more. I believe SCSU took the results of that consultation and moved forward.
SAC has made changes and SCSU certainly hopes that this works better for UTSC students. Whoever you blame, no one can argue that SAC currently is not qualified to comment on UTSC issues. Hopefully some of their changes within SAC will remedy this, but if SCSU were at the same level as SAC, APUS, and GSU, U of T Central Admin would without a doubt be in the position to talk directly with a group well versed in UTSC issues.

Specifically, it has been suggested that SAC did not do anything to put pressure on UTSC or U of T Administration to keep the Bladen Library open during the construction of the ARC... What sort of role did SAC play (if any) in the lobby to keep the library open? How might similar problems be addressed in the future?

PS: This is purely BS, SAC in fact was the only Scarborough Council or committee trying to pressure the administration. Currently SAC does not sit on any college councils at Scarborough, these councils make the decisions that govern events at UTSC. SCSU on the other hand as a seat on each of these committees. So let me make something clear, SAC is being blamed for not pressuring GC, so GC can apply pressure to Robert Campbell at UTSC to do something about the library issue (This is UTSC administration they want SAC to pressure, SCSU is in and out of their offices each day) If library issue was such a great deal to SCSU then why wasn't there an elaborate campaign for the library as there is one for this take over bid of SAC. As I recall clearly I approached the president of SCSU last year and this year about the options of combating this issue, I asked them to join forces and go in to the administration with only two options, a) provide a shuttle bus service to our students until we get a library, or b) to build an infrastructure such as the pavilion for a temporary solution, which would serve as the library. The response I received by your SCSU president this year, was that he found nothing wrong with the library and in fact he had no problems accessing materials. Once again SCSU was making decision without even once asking it's membership.

KB: *The issue of the library was an issue that SAC Scarborough was aware of. A number of faculty and staff were very upset with what was going on, but what SCSU was particularly frustrated with was the loss of all the study space in the library, which represented almost half the study space in the school. Sundeep Singh (former president of SCSU) and Dan worked diligently to get all the study space lost by the construction to be replaced elsewhere in the school. SCSU also got UTSC to set up a Study Space Task Force to make sure this happened. Problem is, the fight was to get each unit of current study space replaced, when really UTSC needed much more study space on top of the current amount. As a result, SCSU was successful in getting all that study space replaced, but there was little increase in study space. Enrollment increased, and students have nowhere near as much study space as they need. Still, SCSU succeeded in moving the admin on this issue, but not as far as is evidently necessary. SAC Scarborough was aware of this issue and in a position to secure some pressure on the downtown campus, so it is a shame that they could not influence SAC as a whole to deliver. Maybe study space could then have been better here. Again, both groups can argue of who is to blame for SAC Scarborough's lack of success in getting SAC to address this downtown, but in the end SCSU was on the issue and with direct connections to downtown might have been able to get even more for students.*
Parminder has mentioned that SCSU makes decisions on its own and does not consult. That is not true, we do consult, but we also focus energy on delivering services and advocacy for the students. Of course, we have not done as much consultation as we would like to do. This is regrettable - We must consult more. But the issues we are pursuing definitely are issues students care about. Still, we must create more ways for UTSC students to be involved in the formulation of our decisions through consultation. I would also like to mention that if SAC Scarborough is not consulting with SCSU about UTSC issues, it can thus be assumed that SAC Scarborough is not consulting students enough in general.

Dan Bandurka, SCSU President, has openly acknowledged (in an interview with The Underground) that the plebiscite has been designed to put pressure on student representatives to be more effective in their representation, though he maintains that SCSU's agenda is not to "oust" SAC from UTSC... Has SAC felt any pressure? What would a "Yes" vote mean to SAC?

PS: SAC-UTSC has made significant changes and will continue to do so to meet the needs of its membership. Dan should be applying pressure internally and should start communication with SAC rather then waste student money on unnecessary campaigns. If Dan is really concerned about UTSC then what is he doing about the 25% rise in parking prices posted for next year, mind you SCSU is the only student group on campus who sits on this committee and they voted in favour of the parking increase. SCSU has done nothing for UTSC students, parking prices at UTSC has increased well over 300% in the last 3 yrs. They are already the only council at UTSC that have a say on this and they have

done nothing. SAC applied pressure on our GC reps to try to stop it at University Affairs Board, but if SCSU is in favour of it, and since they are the voice of UTSC students then that must mean that UTSC students just love seeing increases in fees around campus.

KB: *Parking fee increases are reported at the Planning and Budget Committee at UTSC, there is no special motion to make this happen. So to fight it, it takes the form of traditional lobbying outside of any committee at UTSC. There is no "vote" in favour of it. I do hope SAC Scarborough can back up the allegation that we were in support of parking fee increases, since it is quite the allegation. Of course, SCSU has been fighting the parking increases for a number of years now, but this year is unique. UTSC admin had to go downtown to get approval to increase parking fees 25 percent this year, and 25 percent the next. With an increased SCSU standing downtown, we might have been consulted about it, bringing meaningful discussion from a UTSC students' perspective. Yes, the meeting itself was open and we could challenge it without official Student Representative status downtown, but the effects are substantially less when you don't have the standing. Just for the record, it was SCSU lobbying the U of T admin downtown about the increase to parking fees.*

The issue of increasing parking rates was discussed here: http://www.utoronto.ca/govcncl/bac/details/bb/2002-03/bbr20030120.pdf

As of the end of last week [two weeks ago now...] no visible "No" campaign had been mounted by SAC or any other group... Any comments?

PS: At this time I see no point in spending students money on campaigns. I don't want to see a war amongst students. I clearly felt that this could've been worked out at the executive level, that is why we are elected members. I do have 'NO' literature that I will be posting but it will be not as elaborate as SCSU.

KB: *Although SAC Scarborough is relatively uninvolved with UTSC issues, it was surprising that they could not aid in clarifying to students what the implications were of this vis-à-vis SAC. SCSU was put in the position of trying to articulate what the effect on SAC is, when from our vantage point it is the loss of official representation. SAC has known for at least over a month and a half that this was coming, and we anticipated SAC, because it was losing its "official" representation of UTSC students, to be part of the process of informing students. I am not surprised that SAC has come out and challenged the plebiscite, I do have a problem with their assertion that SCSU should have to do SAC Scarborough's part in informing students. The system of student representation for UTSC students within SAC is broken, if SCSU cannot get the representation students at UTSC deserve through the current system, SCSU has a responsibility to act to acquire proper representation.*

As for the 'No' literature SAC Scarborough has, the fact that they have not posted it is a bigger waste of student money then anything we did. The lack of the anticipated 'no' side has increased the perception of illegitimacy, even if the reason SAC Scarborough has not done so is through laziness or even better, through smarts - the less they visibly do against this the more illegitimate the whole plebiscite is perceived. SCSU knows that there is an argument that SAC is being weakened since they no longer can claim to officially represent 35,000 students. Going into this, we were under the impression that SAC would provide a distinct 'no' side, so the information presented was in expectation of a campaign against it. We had no idea they were not going to inform students of their viewpoints. As for a war among our groups, SCSU has tried to not talk about SAC too much because we too know that students don't want to see warring groups. The more we are forced to talk about SAC (because SAC Scarborough was not informing students), the more defensive they understandably got. Look what happened.

Any other comments?

PS: Some student organization have mentioned to me to start a campaign for a take over bid of SCSU and call everything SAC-UTSC, since SAC-UTSC would fall under the umbrella of SAC and would really be the representing body of students at U of T. this is not a bad idea, an expanded SAC-UTSC with it's sister organizations representing St. George and UTM (SAC-UTM). However, I clearly feel that working together would be better, two heads are better than one. Now UTSC will be the first of any college at u of t to get TTC student passes, if SAC was not present this never would've happened.

This particular hammer and sickle have no particular meaning

KB: *Admittedly, SAC has taken a leading role in the discounted TTC Metropass success. SCSU, with many other student councils, joined SAC in making this happened. In this case, although SCSU did not have to, SCSU made the trips downtown and worked with SAC to get the discounted Metropass for UTSC students. I would definitely encourage SAC Scarborough to make use of their position on our Board, we really would like more their input, and it might allow them to be more aware of what is going on at UTSC. But I don't think students at UTSC should have to "hope" that SAC Scarborough and SCSU communicate well so that SAC can be aware of UTSC issues and thus present an informed UTSC viewpoint to U of T central admin. SCSU has been working on a number of items recently. A vast number of UTSC students came to us late last year and demanded more computing centre hours. SCSU researched and put together a proposal for 24 hour computing facilities at UTSC. This past Tuesday, through the Planning and Budget Committee, the University agreed to move forward on the implementing the ideas in the proposal. SCSU has delivered on this issue, students will have these facilities next year. At the Academic Committee of UTSC, there was a proposal to force students to have marks higher than a 50 in a prerequisite course to go on to the following course. Students were understandably upset with this proposal. After lots of discussion with students on the subject, SCSU lobbied and fought this proposal. Although Academic Committee now has the ability to do apply these minimum marks, SCSU successfully fought its implementation. No course next year will force students to have marks higher than a pass to get into the next course. All this time, SCSU has also been negotiating the Student Centre Management Agreement with UTSC and has begun the process of creating a Business Plan. We also put out a survey regarding the new '5 downtown credit' restriction, just to find out how students felt about this new restriction. Many students have come up to us and encouraged us to create a central online database of practice midterm and final exams that they can use to practice for exam time. We will consult some more, but if students want it, we will deliver on it. Of course, there is always room for more consultation, and SCSU intends to be even more proactive. There is so much more we are involved in right now on behalf of the students of UTSC, and all this is probably a surprise to SAC Scarborough. But they do have a position on our Board, all meetings are public, and our Board minutes are online.*

SAC Scarborough taking over SCSU is not a good idea. UTSC students have a unique viewpoint on issues, and that has to be respected. A SAC-UTSC position on any issue could be subjugated by the St. George and UTM viewpoint. U of T central admin needs to be able to get a sense of a qualified UTSC viewpoint, and currently SAC Scarborough cannot deliver that. There is nothing to preclude SAC and SCSU to work together in the future, the perceived animosity is not there. We share many of the same viewpoints, the disagreement is over student representation. Currently, U of T central admin is not able to gauge the UTSC student viewpoint, and SCSU, which is in the business of delivering on UTSC student needs and conveying the UTSC student viewpoint, needs to be able to expand this proven ability to the downtown campus, where crucial decisions are being made about UTSC students. Although this plebiscite has been controversial, we feel that UTSC students deserve to be consulted when decisions about them are being made downtown, and at the very least it should happen through SCSU, the official representative body of undergraduate students at UTSC. Currently, students at UTSC are being underserved by the Scarborough Commission of SAC when SAC is asked to speak for them. If the Scarborough Commission can't even be bothered to attend meetings at UTSC regularly, where issues at UTSC are being discussed and debated, then how can UTSC students expect the Commission to deal with their pressing issues?

As for the interest this plebiscite has created, I am really very happy that students care about what is going on. All our Board meetings are open to the public at large. Our meeting schedule is published in The Underground at the start of the year, and it is also located at http://www.scsu.ca.

Everyone is encouraged to come out and give their valuable input into the process.

opinion

Homework: Working hard or hardly working?

Faheem Merchant

Until now, students were the only ones to protest against homework. Parents liked it because they felt it was character building, helped their children get an education and keep off the streets at night. Teachers went along with it, because it was an accepted part of the academic curriculum and structure. However, does homework really achieve its purpose?

Most pupils think that too much homework can jolt the brain, and that homework is a complete waste of time. That it doesn't result in scholastic achievement; that it encourages deceit and dishonesty; teaches carelessness and poor work habits; creates friction between school and home; encourages students to rely on others to do their work for them; and destroys the friendly relationship between the pupils, teachers and parents. There is strong evidence that homework sours pupils on learning for the rest of their lives, creates unnecessary work and worry for parents and robs pupils of wholesome recreational and social life during their most formative years. An article printed once in the *Time* said "The teacher who assigns homework admits incapacity, while the parent who asks for homework is dodging his duties - he's just looking for a convenient way to keeping the child occupied. Homework doesn't help the slow child. The fast child doesn't need it. So, why give it?"

Not only does homework add to the already occupied and engaged mind of the pupil but also the teacher. Marking for completion, the teacher is piled up with more work to do during their leisure hours. In fact, statistics show that more homework is given to students now than ever before resulting in students trying to cope up with an extremely fast paced education. Moreover not giving students enough time to understand the basic elements of that subject.

Homework originated in English public schools, principally to keep pupils occupied at night, and English teachers brought the habit to Canada. A teacher was judged by the percentage of his pupils that passed high-school exams. Many teachers found one way of enhancing their academic record was to smother their pupils with homework. Many children were forced through exams by the method - but did it really teach the kids anything is a different question.

In one year, a grade 8 class was given homework for the whole year, whereas two other grade 8 classes in the same school were not. At the end of the year the exam results for all three grades was identical. After studying the results of homework the *Encyclopedia of Educational Research* concluded by saying: "Compulsory homework does not result in sufficient improved academic achievement to justify retention of the achievement argument." A study shows that only one - tenth of the homework assignments are checked thoroughly, a student can continue to make the same mistakes over and over again. Hence what point or path does homework hold for future generations, only teachers know.

And if overnight abolishing homework would be too great a shock. Here are five recommendations for our current system, which would at least correct many "faults":

1. Change our whole attitude of homework. It should be optional, not compulsory, and be motivated by the desire of the student to learn.
2. Homework could be reduced or eliminated if supervised study time is included in the scheduled periods.
3. More attention should be given to teaching the students how to study.
4. A student should be taught to draw up his own schedule, how to review his own work and how to do research.
5. Different departments should assign homework on different nights and that no weekend assignments be given.

Now, is that too much to ask? In summary I would like to quote what was once written by Sidney Katz "Children should be encouraged to pursue education; the education should not pursue them."

42 million infected
20 million dead
there's more...
AIDS
Awareness UTSC
Meeting Place: March 10, 11, 12
Local and International AIDS organizations, research, photography, exhibits, contests, movies, giveaways, free food..
Speaker Night: March 12, 6pm
"Deconstructing AIDS" Featuring:
World Vision, AIDS Committee of Toronto, Voices of Positive Women & Polaris Research
Location: Council Chamber, S-402
Art for AIDS: March 13, 5pm
Spoken word, visual arts, music, dance, food
Location: Student Village Centre

word of the week!

sesquipedalian

sesquipedalian \ses-kwi-pi-DAYL-yun\
adjective:
1. Given to the overuse of long words; "sesquipedalian orators"
2. (Of words) long and ponderous; having many syllables; as, "sesquipedalian technical terms"
–**sesquipedalian**, *noun:*
A very long word (a foot and a half long)

Usage: "A set of **sesquipedalian** exclamations."

The News In Brief...

Student's Learn Power Politics Early in Their Career

During the first day of SCSU elections last Wednesday some angry women students set up there own voting box-the "Democracy Box"-asking students if they knew what the SCSU plebiscite was about, and if the student body felt informed enough to vote on the issue. Out of 122 votes, 87 students said that they did not feel that they knew enough about the plebiscite issue to make an informed decision on the matter.

The box was set up after the SCSU's failed attempt to have a forum on the matter the day before the elections. There were about ten SCSU members sitting themselves in front of about fifty or so students who actually cared enough to want to know what they were to vote on. Only four of the ten SCSU members had a word to say, with most of the talking done by SCSU president Dan Bandurka, who in fact merely repeated himself over and over. The only representative from SAC was Parminder Singh, SAC Scarborough Director.

The two hour forum grew more and more angry as the same questions were continually being sidestepped by the SCSU. Many students were interested in exactly what issues SAC was ignoring that the SCSU thought they could more effectively represent for UTSC. There were vague mumbles about parking and "money going downtown" (whatever that may mean), but the issues were never explained beyond that. However, Bandurka was quick to point out that the plebiscite had nothing to do with those issues, and therefore the forum had nothing to do with those issues either, even though the source of the plebiscite, and indeed the only reason why one would want to vote "yes" on the plebiscite, was a direct result of these issues that are supposedly being ignored by SAC. The plebiscite was merely asking students if they are "in favour of consolidating all UTSC undergraduate representation by designating the Scarborough Campus Students' Union as the single, official UTSC student voice at the University of Toronto?" This wording of the question as it appeared on the ballot implies that there would be no other representative bodies on the UTSC campus other than SCSU. However, Bandurka readily changed his own idea of what was to happen as a result of the "consolidation," suggesting that more than a "consolidation" the SCSU wanted more of a "supplementation," where SAC would be helped in its representation, rather than replaced. However, the ballot states "consolidation." Going even further than rewording the direction of the plebiscite, the SCSU stated that they hadn't thought far enough ahead about the results of a "yes" vote to even know what really would happen if the SCSU did end up becoming the single, consolidated representative force on the UTSC campus.

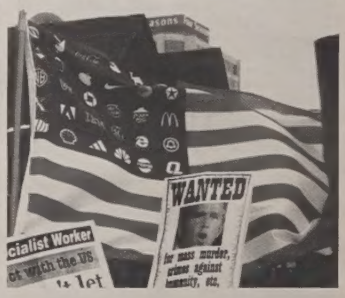
The forum ended with more angry, uninformed students than when the forum had begun, with calls to have the plebiscite question struck from the March 5th and 6th vote, and postponed to a later date where a more constructive forum could be held, preferably more than one day in advance of the vote. Other reasons were given to have the vote cancelled or postponed; if the ballot question was asking for consolidation, and Bandurka was asking for supplementation, which form of the plebiscite were we to vote for?

Whatever the case, the vote went through. Around 500 voters turned out for the SCSU elections, and the plebiscite question is looking like it will pass, with approximately 67% of voters checking of the "yes" box. 72% of those voters had no idea what they were voting on.

Demonstration Without Destruction: UTSC Girls are "Bushes Against Bush."

Over 7000 people rallied and marched on Bloor and Yonge streets last Saturday afternoon for International Women's Day. The event was yet another rally for peace, with people angrily waving signs accusing President Bush of everything from mass murder to dictatorship.

The rally was packed before it started at the OISE on Bloor, and no I don't want your Commie newspaper for fifty cents. There were many speakers and live musical performances, rallying the urban population to march their emotions out into the streets. While it was International Women's Day there was little in the way of overt feminism. The event was coordinated to voice displeasure with the impending war on Iraq, with some emphasis on the women and children of Iraq who will be affected (slaughtered) by the war.



More Voting

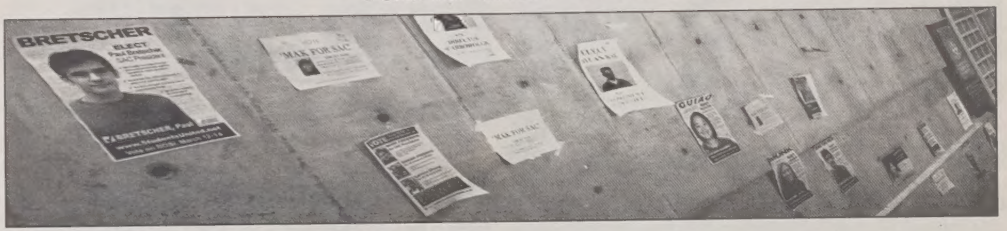
UTSC student Adam Watson is the only student from a satellite campus to be running for a position on the University of Toronto Governing Council. Without Watson being voted in, UTSC students are effectively shut out of the GC. So go vote on ROSI (you don't even have to leave your house), from March 10th to the 14th. More info can be found in Christian Lucier's article on page 8.

The News in Brief is compiled by *The Underground*'s News Editor, Gordon Lane.

Conact Gordon at ***brokennewseditor@hotmail.com***

news

Table talk with SAC candidates



Last Wednesday, the Meeting Place hosted the Students' Administrative Council (SAC) Spring Elections Forum. The candidates for next year's SAC Executive spoke to a small crowd of Scarborough students, vying for their attention in the noisy Meeting Place and their votes in the upcoming election.

Several of the candidates, hailing from St. George campus, were particularly preoccupied with what they believed was the biggest problem facing UTSC students: Getting downtown. Apparently, said candidates believe that reinstating a UTSC-St.George Shuttle-bus service would cure all that ails UTSC students. Students present protested, to the effect that such a service has been proven unviable in the past, and might not even be of use to the majority of UTSC students. Most UTSC students commute to school and would have little incentive to drive to UTSC in order to catch a bus downtown. Nevertheless, the candidates assured the crowd that a shuttle-bus service would make all of St. George campus accessible to UTSC students. Never mind creating services for students at UTSC, a shuttle-bus would just be way cooler.

Much of the rest of the discussion at the forum involved political side-stepping and rehearsed platform speeches. The most popular bits were about "accountability," "representation" and "increased lobbying for students' rights, reduced tuition and increased financial assistance." On the podium most of the candidates were indistinguishable, but a few of them hung around after the forum to actually talk to students and do a bit of schmoozing. Here's what they had to say when *The Underground* ran into them...

Shawn Knight
Running for VP of University Affairs
Hailing from Erindale
Have you ever been arrested?
No.
What are you top three priorities for next year's SAC?
I don't rate them, as far as priorities go... I would like to connect more with the Governing Council [U of T's head administrative body]. I would like to make SAC a federation. It is not working as a dictatorship from the St.George campus. It has to be taking input from the suburban campuses as well.
What qualifies you to accomplish these things?
The reality is that I am an average student. I am a student that is really concerned about my college and my school. I love the University of Toronto, it's a part of me.
Pepsi or Coke?
Uh... I'm not sure which one.
Give us a quick sketch of the average UTSC student and tell us what you think they want from SAC.
I can't make that kind of generalization.
Is this your first trip to UTSC?
No, I've been here a few times, organizing events with my club, the Caribbean Connection, helping organize events with clubs on this campus. We did a formal together. I think that we need to support each other as far as clubs, but that's another issue.
Are you or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party of Canada?
Do you mean the CFS? No, I haven't.

Alexandra Artful-Dodger
Running for VP of Operations
Hailing from Victoria College
Have you ever been arrested?
[Somewhat hesitantly] No.
What are you top three priorities for next year's SAC?
Get more dollars back for students at all three campuses in the form of services. New services to make SAC more relevant to students, like a TTC discount card, ISIC, Health and Dental Plan, not-for-profit insurance. And making SAC more democratic and accountable.
What qualifies you to accomplish these things?
I have an incredibly good knowledge of the organization. I'm currently the External Affairs Commissioner and I've done lots of work on the By-law Review Committee and on the Board of Directors. I've seen as a student and from the inside that it's not that easy to get funding from SAC and I know how to make it better.
Pepsi or Coke?
Diet Pepsi.
Give us a quick sketch of the average UTSC student.
The average UTSC student is so hard to pin down, because this is one of the most diverse campuses that I've ever been to, and I've lived my whole life in Toronto. There's so many different kinds of people here... I would say, probably, wearing a ribbed-turtleneck, studying at all hours of the day, in any location possible. A commuter.
What do you think UTSC students want from SAC?
Hopefully [if elected] I'll want to be in consultation with UTSC students... But in my opinion, what UTSC students want is a student union that will listen to them, that will fight on their behalf, and that will actually consult with them so that it knows what to fight for.
Is this your first trip to UTSC?
No. I do office hours out here quite a bit.
Are you or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party of Canada?
No! I'm not a Communist! I don't even subscribe to their philosophies.

Paul Bretscher
Running for President
Hailing from University College
Have you ever been arrested?
No!
What are you top three priorities for next year's SAC?
Advocate against tuition increases, for increased accessibility for all students... TTC discount realization. And a new deal for UTM, UTSC and St. George.
What qualifies you to accomplish these things?
I've been extremely involved at my local college-level, in student government. I worked federally with a Toronto Liberal MP.
Pepsi or Coke?
Coffee instead.
Give us a quick sketch of the average UTSC student.
I don't want to generalize, but... The average UTSC student is a commuter. Two, they are worried about their education and accessible to it. Three, they are worried about the double cohort, and the lack of study space, libraries, facilities.
Is this your first trip to UTSC?
No.
Are you or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party of Canada?
No.

Dylan Rae
Running for VP of Student Life
Hailing from UTSC
Have you ever been arrested?
No.
What are you top three priorities for next year's SAC?
Scarborough issues. Suburban libraries should have similar hours to Robarts. More study space on all campuses.
What qualifies you to accomplish these things?
I was recently the Deputy Chair for the Scarborough

SAC commission, and I've done a lot of work at Scarborough Campus this year and I feel I know the issues.

Pepsi or Coke?

Pepsi.

Give us a quick sketch of the average UTSC student.

She's a female, 5' 6", taking Political Science and an Arts Major.

What do you think UTSC students want from SAC?

They don't want their student councils fighting. They like them to work together, I think we need to build the trust again. I think that our commission tried to do that this year, but we've obviously been undermined in that. We do represent Scarborough students and we do represent their views.

Are you or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party of Canada?

No.

Julia Monk
Running for VP Equities
Hailing from Innis College

Have you ever been arrested?

No.

What are you top three priorities for next year's SAC?

Accessibility issues for all three campuses, promoting women in student government on all three campuses, and combating homophobia.

What qualifies you to accomplish these things?

I am a part of a minority group on campus. I've been involved with Students for Barrier-Free Access, which is a very new association on campus, especially with the change where 3.0 credits will now constitute you as a full-time student, there will be more disabled students that are full-time on all three campuses. I also feel very strongly that women should have a stronger voice on campus and that equity issues should be noticed more.

Pepsi or Coke?

Uh… Neither.

Give us a quick sketch of the average UTSC student.

There's no average student at university… Especially when you're looking at equity issues you see that there is no average student.

What do you think UTSC students want from SAC?

Quality of education, being able to get the services that they need without having to trek all the way St. George campus… Just having their voices heard. We're all promoting the inclusiveness of all three campuses it's very hard to do that when Scarborough students aren't being heard.

Is this your first trip to UTSC?

Yes.

Are you or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party of Canada?

No.

Lachlan Cheng
Running for VP of Student Life
Hailing from University College

Have you ever been arrested?

No.

What are you top three priorities for next year's SAC?

Making sure that students have a voice, and that they are represented. Combating student apathy and making sure that people get involved. And I want to make sure that every undergraduate student that I am elected to represent has the best time of their life.

What qualifies you to accomplish these things?

I've been involved in other student governments at other universities I've attended, like Carlton and Ottawa U. I've run larger events with up to 20 000 people, like the World Electronic Music Festival, raving mostly… I did that in high school. I'm ahead [in my studies] for my age, so this is something I can take my time with, and work on and totally devote myself to for a year.

Pepsi or Coke?

I kinda hate cola, but I'd say Coke.

Give us a quick sketch of the average UTSC student.

The average UTSC student is very much the same way as the average St. George student… They have different issues of course, and they have different involvement, but the have what all students have… They should have easy access to their student government's information, and they should be able to have a good time here and still have a quality education, because we do go to the largest and the best university in the country.

What do you think UTSC students want from SAC?

As a St. George student, I think that my best guess that I can say that I've accumulated today from talking to students here, besides the plebiscite people who've been telling me to screw off and that SAC is unimportant, mostly what I'm seeing is that they want to make sure that they are equally represented, purely in a monetary way, for the amount of money that they put into an organization like this, because they don't think that they're returns in any form.

Is this your first trip to UTSC?

No, I came out here a year and a half ago to visit a friend, but that was purely a social thing… I have friends out here, they're good people at UTSC.

Are you or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party of Canada?

No. No, I have not… I enjoy Communism, it's a great little system, but my little bit of pragmatism makes me distance myself from that sort of political system, though.

As for the rest of the candidates, they clearly weren't very interested in what students had to say, so frankly we aren't all that interested in hearing what they have to say. And one other note, the man known as Ryan Demello, who is running unopposed for SAC's VP-UTSC and will be acclaimed in short order, could not attend the SAC Elections Forum held in Scarborough because he was at home with a broken arm and could not find a ride to school. Maybe those TTC discounts will come in handier than we thought?

LICK MY SAC!

The elections are soon!

Are you weary of all these polls? Does the thought of another long-winded speech about shuttle buses or representation or cohorts (double or otherwise) just make you want to curl up in a ball and hurl yourself down the nearest well? No? Then read on!

It's true, just like the joint you smoke when you've done just a bit too much crystal, a good SAC Election, especially the one in which you can vote *online* (how fun!) on March 12 to 14, just eases the pain of tests and exams and that weird rash.

The following is a list of candidates that saw fit to attend the forum at UTSC last week. Some of them didn't, or left right afterwards. Face it, by not sticking around here for any longer than they absolutely had to, or not showing up to the forum at all, the candidates that aren't listed here showed us just how little they care about you.

Director(UTSC)
Mary Auxi Guaio
Ameena Hassan
Sakina Kizilbash
Sarah Mak
Stephanie Pigott
Quentin Stossel
Javier Venegas

Vice President - University Affairs
Shawn Knights

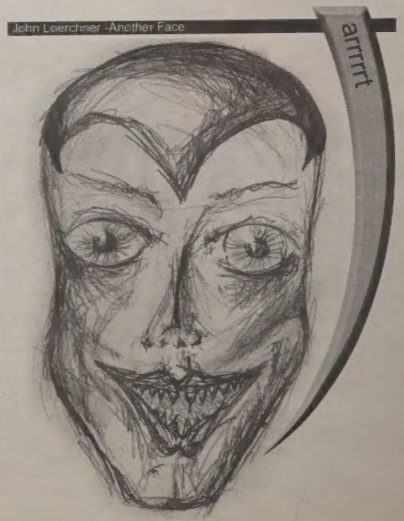
Vice President – Equity
Julia Munk

Vice President – Operations
Alexandra Artful-Dodger

Vice President – Student Life
Lachlan Cheng
Dylan Rae

President
Paul Bretscher

John Loercher -Another Face



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AS SEEN BY

du Maurier ARTS

The Women's Centre Revisited

Erin Howe

In the Nov 13th, 2002 issue of The Underground, editor-in-chief Chris McKinnon investigated the Scarborough Campus Women's Centre (SCWC). He demanded to know ". . . where was the educational programming, the outreach campaigns and the advocacy? Why isn't our Women's Centre educating UTSC about real-life issues like date rape, sexual harassment, eating disorders, women's rights and campus safety concerns?" Following that article, I was rather curious myself.

On the one hand, I was outraged after McKinnon's article, which was able to expose the campus Women's Centre as little more than a glorified hangout.

Surely, our somewhat enlightened campus had to offer more to its students than just a tiny little office where a select handful of 'volunteers' congregated. On the other hand, I wasn't willing to just take one man's word, and so I decided to check the place out myself.

A few weeks ago, I met with Kinzi, the Women's Centre co-ordinator, to discuss what goes on at the SCWC. What I discovered was that there are a lot of misconceptions that surround the SCWC. In fact, I'm not sure that many students actually know what happens in the Women's Centre.

As a female student who has attended the school for three years, I'll admit that prior to my investigation, I knew nothing about what actually happens at the Women's Centre. It was my *assumption* that they would be committed to running events, and being an unabashedly radical feminist voice on campus. As a matter of fact, this is not the case at all. My research revealed that the Women's Centre is not mandated to run events, or to impose political views on the student body. According to Kinzi, the Centre's reason for being is to "Create awareness of issues among the women at UTSC . . . and to create an environment where all students feel welcome to drop by to for the purposes of receiving information, sharing ideas and concerns relating to women."

There is some debate over how well the Women's Centre fulfills its mission to create understanding through it's sporadic awareness campaigns. Despite the skepticism that was fueled by last semester's article, it is important to note the events surrounding a few major women's issues, namely Breast Cancer and AIDS. Recently, the Women's Centre also held a clothing drive, and is currently running an AIDS awareness event. Perhaps we'd like to see more from the SCWC, but it is important to realize that planning events is not all that the Women's Centre ever intended to do.

The Women's Centre's most important contribution to campus life is their open door. Kinzi estimates that 10 to 15 people drop into the centre on a daily basis, looking for everything from directions to advice. Most frequently, inquiries have to do with sexual health and nearby health clinics. The first question that sprung into my mind was "Why wouldn't you just go to Health and Wellness for that kind off stuff?" Kinzi believes that some students are more receptive to the idea of asking their peers for help than going elsewhere for it. As she put it, "Here, it's a little more informal. People come in and kind of ask general questions . . . and before you know it, they'll ask you for information on different things, like birth control." Kinzi believes that when it comes to delicate situations, students are most comfortable dealing with their peers.

Having inquired at the Women's Centre for myself has allowed me to form an opinion of the value of what they do, and a sense of how well the Centre is run. However, just as I wasn't ready to just adopt Chris' opinion of the Women's Centre, I encourage you to drop in and see for yourself what the SCWC has to offer you.

QUICK FACTS: University Women's Centres

Carleton University Womyn's Centre
- Breast Heath, Body Image-Awareness, Sexual Assualt, Womyn Care weeks
- On-going self defense classes
- Women's Shelter fundraiser: The Vagina Monologues
- Publication of 52%, a magazine, twice per academic year

Ryerson University Women's Centre
- Parents' hotline for students with children
- Job board
- Film screenings
- Discussion groups
- Resources Library

Lakehead University Gender Issues Centre
- Men's Issues Week
- Twice-weekly meditation group
- Weekly assertiveness groups

University of Waterloo Womyn's Centre
- Weekly meetings open to general student population
- International Women's Week (featuring a "Pussy Party", yoga and self defense classes, a potluck dinner and so much more!)
- Movie nights and concerts featuring local female talent

Lisa Endersby

My experience at the Women's Centre was actually quite positive, contrary to many things I have previously heard about the caliber of the service provided. I still, however, found a couple of things that I consider to be problems, though I still see the Centre as an asset to UTSC.

The first time that I tried to go the Centre, it was closed. Now I'm not sure if they keep regular office hours, or even if these hours are posted somewhere, but for anyone else trying to seek the kind of information available at the Centre, a locked door and no lights on can serve as a rather effective deterrent. Most people go to the Centre to find information about partner or spousal abuse, pregnancy issues, and many other personal matters. The people seeking this information are often shy and afraid, and if after finally working up the courage to get help find none available, may lose their moxy and take the closed door as some sort of 'sign' not to seek advice again. I was also a little disappointed with the fact that no one at the Centre, when it was open, could find the information that I wanted. I was hoping to get in and out as quickly as possible, as I felt uncomfortable asking what I did, so I found it somewhat upsetting to have to wait for someone to find me any relevant information.

Despite these two complaints, I was pleasantly surprised by the reception I got when I entered the Centre. All the women present were very friendly and helped me feel a little more at ease in an uncomfortable situation. I was also approached by more than one of the women, which told me that they were genuinely concerned with helping me with my problem. The atmosphere was very welcoming and the people seemed to actually want to help instead of leaving me to my own devices. Although I think that some improvements could be made, the Women's Centre at UTSC is in fact a welcome addition to the University.

Not Warming to the Idea

Meghan Hurley
Underground Staff

If environmentalists are right, we are on the verge of a massive global climate change that could cause a significant rise in sea levels, chaotic weather patterns and catastrophic droughts. The consequence of global warming is a heated debate right now among scientists, environmentalists and those who are contributing to and are being affected by gas emissions all over the world. University of Toronto at Scarborough hosted a Global Warming Panel in the Student Village Centre to address what can be done about it, and whether the Kyoto Accord is right for Canadians.

The guests were asked questions by environmental science student Quentin Stossel regarding myths, facts and effects of global warming. Dr. Bill Gough (UoT Scarborough Scientist) contends that by the year 2050 the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere might double if steps are not taken to lower emissions. Dr. Quentin Chiotti (Scientist/ Pollution Probe activist) commented that even if the Kyoto Protocol is ratified, the developing countries would continue to be voiceless regarding how they will be affected. Although this is the case, developing countries do not greatly contribute to the emissions of toxic gasses, and are therefore, not as greatly affected by it. From the economic perspective, Dr. Albert Berry (UofT St George Economist), concludes that industrialization is occurring at an extremely fast pace in many parts of the world, and this rapid industrialization contributes to global warming. Dr. Berry argues that we have to collectively figure out how to industrialize with much less environmentally damaging affects.

Although a solution to global warming may seem unreachable, everyone can contribute to lowering emissions and decreasing other factors responsible for global warming. Dr. Gough revealed that two things could be done: we can either prevent change, or adapt to it. Mitigation is one way to reduce Co2 from the atmosphere. Dr. Chiotti agrees that it is "prudent to continue on a mitigation pathway to reduce emissions." Dr. Harry Hengeveld (Senior scientist Environment Canada) was concerned with long-term strategies to lower the affects of global warming, and the existence of CO2 in the atmosphere. He says that we can begin with getting rid of the carbon molecule in our energy, that is to be energy efficient.

The Kyoto Protocol was introduced to the panel for their input. In 1988, a panel regarding climate change came into existence to address such issues are global warming. This panel served as a political process to examine the issue of Kyoto. Fifty-five countries were to ratify the protocol, but evidently this has not been achieved yet. Panelist Dr. Quentin Chiotti brought up a concern about the Kyoto Protocol. He feels that there are negative misrepresentations of the Kyoto Protocol in the media. He commented that the representations in the media contain "only a slight thread of truth, but that's it." There is no evidence to suggest that the Kyoto Protocol was going to be a disaster as the media has portrayed. According to Dr. Harry Hengeveld, the tragedy of the Kyoto Protocol is that "while it was intended to be the first strategy to lower danger, it has become the end all be all for many governments." He suggests the implementation of a fifty-year strategy with Kyoto as a first step.

To conclude the "heated" discussion, the panel members were asked to assess the viability of the Kyoto Protocol: how much of a *global* effort is actually being put forth? Dr. Gough thinks it is unfortunate that the U.S government is not working well with the rest of the countries to eradicate some of the causes, even though they have significantly contributed to global warming. With regard to modifying the Protocol to include everyone, Dr. Quentin Chiotti contends that he doesn't see how "watering it down to bring everyone in is a step forward".

Global warming is a problem that has taken about one hundred years to develop, so it will take at least one hundred years to completely eradicate the crisis. The global impact of increased warming is worrisome, so the public sector has to take the lead in research to find more efficient energy sources. If warming, and climate change in general is only at a very low rate (a small amount of climate change is expected and inevitable) then we can adapt to it, but if it continues at the rate it is raising now then the severity of its affects are going to be horrendous. We need an international framework that will involve all countries in the fight to end global warming.

weekly haiku
by sachin hingoo

People always say,
"Everybody loves Raymond".
Know what I love? CAKE.

STUDY IN AUSTRALIA
Info Session
Wednesday, March 12, 2003
1pm - 3pm
Council Chamber, Rm S403
Info Booth - Main cafeteria
11am - 3pm
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Where no UTSC Student has gone before

Christian Lucier
Life Editor

Just when you thought we had put all this election business behind us, another election pops up. This time it's the elections for the Governing Council (GC). Considering the plebiscite responses from many UTSC students in last week's issue, it is a pretty safe bet that a large portion of the student body is not even aware of the GC or what they do. Thanks to a fellow student, I can shine some light on the subject.

The GC is in charge of all the administrative issues for the University of Toronto. Some of these administrative issues include arranging tuition and accidental fees, determining financial aid amounts and allocations, and drafting and approving the budgets for all three U of T campuses. The GC is the committee of committees, the head honcho of organizations, the wallet, the purse, and the bank. This council is made up of 27 individuals, which is chaired collectively by a Chairperson (U of T President, R. Birgeneau), and the U of T Chancellor. Where the student body comes into play is the eight seats of the council reserved for them. Four of these seats are for undergraduate students, although there is no rule that states that any have to be from UTSC or UTM. The other four seats are for graduate students, and the same rules apply.

Considering all the information above, it is shocking that UTSC has not had even one member of its student body on this council for quite some time. No one from UTSC is there to represent us or voice our opinions. For the past few years, students from the St. George campus have occupied all eight of the student seats on the council. However, the tides are about to change.

This year, one student from UTSC, has decided to make it his mission to join the ranks of the GC, and to represent UTSC to the best of his ability. Adam Watson, a co-op management student, has stepped up to the plate. Watson is running for the GC for a number of reasons, but primarily because he finds it: "Very important [...] that suburban representation is present and voiced so that we can ultimately ensure UTM and UTSC both have adequate funding." Particularly, Watson wants to make certain there is enough funding for student groups and clubs, co-op programs, and science research facilities. Funding is not the only issue that Watson is concerned with. He would also like to see the suburban campuses (UTSC and UTM) have a voice at the board table and a more active role in the decision-making processes.

Life for students on the two U of T outposts is what concerns Watson the most. Due to an expected centralistic view of the GC, Watson believes that there are a lot of issues involving UTSC and UTM that are overlooked. To use an example, Watson has researched and found that a considerably larger amount of UTSC and UTM students use the TTC to commute to school than St. George students. Watson would like to see a discounted fare for students who use the TTC to commute. He believes that, "Since the GC does not have the representation of suburban issues on the board, there is a possibility that issues such as this one, would have never been brought to the attention of the GC." Watson assures that this is only one of a number of issues that effect suburban students more then St. George students.

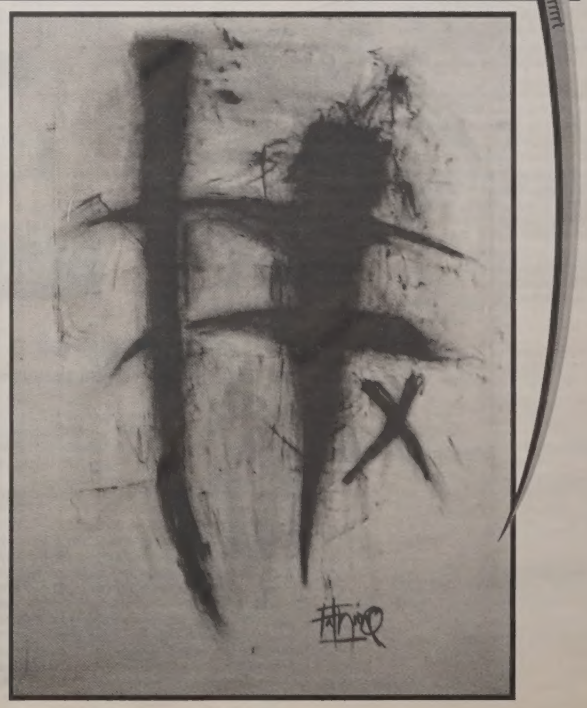
If elected, Watson plans to gather the voices of both UTSC and UTM students by holding regular forums at both campuses. Once he has collected these concerns and opinions, Watson will then present a weekly report to the GC outlining these issues. He states: "I will not only ensure that the GC is aware of the issues, but I will ensure that my voice is heard and will ensure that UTSC and UTM students have a valid and informed vote."

Watson appears to be more then capable to handle these tasks. Not only was he the Student Trustee to the Simcoe County District School Board for three consecutive terms, but he was also the Provincial Director to the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Watson already has experience defending those who are deserted and neglected, which seems to be the case for both UTSC and UTM.

Once again, Watson is the only UTSC student running for the GC. In this editor's opinion, it would be foolish for the student body to ignore this opportunity to obtain a voice on the GC. The voting period takes place from March 10th-14th. In order to vote, simply log on to ROSI and click on 'elections'. The rest is pretty straightforward. All eight of Watson's opponents are from the St. George Campus. Enough said.

> ***"I will not only ensure that the GC is aware of the issues, but I will ensure that my voice is heard and will ensure that UTSC and UTM students have a valid and informed vote."***
>
> ***- Adam Watson***

Fathima Mohiuddin



arts

UTSC gets creative writing awards

Update on creative writing on campus

Keith Friedlander
Arts Editor

Two new creative writing awards are being made available to the students of UTSC this year. One will be for poetry and another for short fiction. Kristen Guest, who has supervised the establishment of the new UTSC Creative Writing Circle hopes that this will be another aid in bringing out the creative community on campus. The prize for winning the award is at this point is minimal. A cash prize of $50 is the only sure reward, and the possibility of a trophy or plaque of some kind is questionable. Still, the main attraction to any aspiring writer will likely be the recognition that comes from such a decoration.

Kristen also wants to assure any writers interested in submitting work that while she is connected to the Writer's Circle, there will be no bias given to members in the contest. Submissions will be judged by two other members of the English faculty who are yet to be selected.

Entries should be submitted to Kristen in the Bladen Library, Room 202, by April 1. They should be typed out and should not identify the author. Rather, they would like a cover sheet with the names of the poem(s) or short story being submitted, the name of the writer and an e-mail contact. There will be a 1000 word limit for poetry submissions and a 3000 word limit for short fiction. The awards will be announced in early May.

In other creative writing news, Kristen told The Underground that the Writing Circle has selected the works that will appear in its long-expected journal and have begun the editing phase of its conception. They're still batting around different ideas for names, but they hope the journal will be complete and available sometime in May. The distribution will be rather short as they only expect to have a few hundred copies printed, but they will be made available in the library and other areas around campus as well as at cultural events where the Circle is present.

The journal is currently expected to be a recurring event on campus that will hopefully grow in the coming years. According to Kristen, now that the initial journal is set for completion, the small staff responsible for putting it together will be available next year to train new students that are interested in continuing it. Hopefully, with a regular and growing medium for creative writers on campus, support and participation will grow. Apparently interest is already very high, as the current journal received well over 100 submissions.

Finally, Professor Leonard is organizing this year's Open Mic Night on the evening of March 17 (yes, St. Patrick's Day) in the Attic where the students from his creative writing class will be reading samples of their work. Any people interested in taking the course in the future can use this as an opportunity to get a sense for what the current participants will have gained from it in its first year. It promises to be an energetic night and all faculty, staff and students who want to participate are welcome.

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The inner workings of a West Bank settlement

TVO documentary depicts Israeli sentiment

Sarah Barmak
Underground Staff

What motivates ultra-Orthodox Jews to raise their families in an occupied Arab community? At a time when understanding of the Middle Eastern uprising is so dearly sought, it is clear that the question of the Israeli settlements stands at the crux of the conflict. Ruth Walk's documentary *The Settlers* shows us the lives of seven families living in the Israeli-occupied region of Hebron in the Arab West Bank.

The documentary, airing today at 10pm EST on TVO (repeated this Sunday at midnight), manages to be unbiased without aloofness or indifference. It simply and quietly records the families' lives, especially the women, noting their reasons for being there and their attitude towards their neighbours. Predictably (but still disturbingly), the settlers are ignorant and racist towards the people with whom they live. They consider Arabs to be subhuman murderers, living on land that rightfully belongs to the Jews by divine privilege. "The landscape is beautiful," says one settler's wife. "Too bad it's full of Arabs."

Walk asks the settlers a question that would be on everyone's mind, which is: how can you think of raising a family in such a volatile area? Jews have been murdered there, and in the past year violence has escalated literally outside their front doors. Their responses, that their children are part of the conflict, are chilling. Ironically, this echoes the enlistment of leagues of child soldiers by Islamic militants.

Seen in such a realistic light, it becomes impossible to see this aspect of Israeli foreign policy as anything other than deluded. The Palestinians are made second-class citizens in a territory they've lived in for a generation. It is encouraging to think that the elimination of the settlements and the occupation would cause a permanent end to all suicide bombings and Palestinian unrest. It is important to keep in mind during this film, however, that for a dangerous faction of Arabs, the war against Israel will not end until it disappears from the map.

No narrator is used for this doc. Both the settlers and the images speak for themselves. One criticism could be that at no time are any of the Arab inhabitants interviewed. But the expressions on their faces say enough. It is the settlers who are the enigma.

Double Fisting *The Buzz*

The Lord of Darkness takes on Canada's funniest duo.

Andrew C. Epstein (TLOD)
Underground Staff

One fine day in my youth I turned on Rogers Cable 10 (okay, I was flipping and stopped by chance) and was magically introduced to Daryn Jones, Mista Mo, and their creation, *The Buzz*. Well Daryn and Mo took their talent for degrading people and breaking things to The Comedy Network and actually won a Gemini. I got a chance to speak with Daryn and Mo separately so I could ask them about semi-stardom and all its accoutrements.

Did you ever think you'd actually make any money off the show?
Mista Mo: Mmm… no, when we started doing the Buzz we were doing it for free for three years on Rogers, and that was just volunteer work. Never knew it would actually come down to getting paid for the show like that.
Daryn Jones: When we first started ages ago, like no way. But the thing is that now we've been doing it for four years, and I feel like I'm entitled to it. But when we started that wasn't the point at all, we just wanted some recognition 'cause we were on TV and that was cool.

Did Rogers Cable 10 ever put you through any strange sort of initiation?
MM: No not that I remember.
DJ: I don't think so… um Mo suggested something once, but he gave me a weird look and so I dropped the subject.

Do you have Buzz groupies?
MM: Sometimes I remember when we shoot, I remember two incidents where there was just like a person hanging out with us the whole day. Never would say anything to us but they were just there while we were shooting, and that's about it nothing freaky. There was a guy who just hung around for four hours, never said anything to us.
DJ: They're usually pretty weird, which is fine. But we're not the show that hot people really watch. The show's hosted by nerds and geeks so kind of that crowd. That's fine with me, I mean we're hanging with our people.

What's the most famous person you've ever met through the Buzz?
MM: To be honest I really can't think of anybody. Daryn's the guy who likes to talk to celebrities and stuff like that. I'm usually the guy who doesn't show up to the celebrity meetings. Hmm… must have met tons of celebrities and I don't think I even cared.
DJ: Emanuel Lewis! Mr. T… um the guy who played Skippy on Family Ties, that was pretty amazing.

Did you ever meet Screech from Saved by the Bell?
DJ: No we haven't met Screech yet… we met MC Hammer but no Screech.

Describe your most memorable experiences in Scarborough (if any).
MM: One time there was this guy just hanging around us and he was flashing people. We were on the street corner trying to shoot, this was with Rogers years ago, and this guy kept on flashing his genitals. We didn't really notice for a while and the producer pointed it out and someone came and stopped him. But if you watch the footage, I think we actually aired it, there's the guy in the background. I don't think anyone noticed, but the guy was just there flashing himself.
DJ: I think my most memorable moment in Scarborough was driving through it to Ajax.

Have you ever had anyone come after you over the content of your show?
MM: We get angry callers and emails saying, "your show is offensive" or whatever. We get a lot of racist comments. I don't want to get in to details, but it's like something threatening to kill you and your family, using the "n" word with that.
DJ: Some people get upright, get uptight.

Get upright? Was that a Freudian slip?
DJ: Yes that's how I feel right now. No, usually people are lazy so they send one email, so they feel like they've done their part.

Are you more of a pimp or a hoe?
MM: I guess I'm the pimp.

So Daryn's the ho?
MM: If that's how you have to put it yeah… I'm not the ho.
DJ: That's a great question. Our relationship really has morphed over the years, back and forth. I would say Mo is more the pimp because if there's a bit he doesn't want to do I end up having to do it.

Describe a Buzz meeting. How do you guys come up with show ideas?
MM: We shoot for only four months out of the year. We just have our own ideas. He thinks of some ideas and I think of some ideas, and the producer just mixes them. Around May, we get together and have a couple of meetings and shoot the shit and see what's going to get on the show. For the most part we just do everything on our own.
DJ: Usually it's like a week before we have to shoot and we'll call each other. I'll say "what do you want to do?" and he'll go "I don't know" and I'll go "me neither" and he's like "ok cool" and I'm like "cool see you next week".

Tell me a story about being censored.
MM: For the most part they (The Comedy Network) are really good to us. There have been a few things here and there.
DJ: Mo's been more censored than I, he's dirty. He's the foul one. He gets in more trouble than I do.

What's your dream Buzz superhero?
MM: I don't think it'd be any of them. If I had to be an actual superhero I probably be like Wolverine or something.
DJ: Maybe like a hot hot chick who's into nerdy short white guys.

Fighting evil with felatio?
DJ: Yes! There you go, you've thought about this too.

Have you made any enemies in the biz?
MM: No. I'm sure there are people who want us off the air, but not any of them took any action. Just maybe people saying stuff behind your back.
DJ: I used to have a feud with Bill Welychka. But then he went to MuchMoreMusic so it's not much fun anymore. We're kind of pleasant now when we see each other. Hmm, who else? Mike Bullard but everyone's got a feud with him. We try to start them all the time for fun, but nobody ever picks it up and goes along with it. It's a drag.

What's the most homoerotic moment between you and Daryn?
MM: Can't think of one. I've been working with this guy for over seven years. I can never tell anymore
DJ: We try to keep those to a minimum due to the business relationship. There's been awkward moments, we had to share a room in Montreal at the comedy festival. Thank god we're both professionals or it could have gotten a little weird.

What's in the future for you after the Buzz?
MM: I guess Daryn will probably continue to pursue acting. Myself, I want to put out stand-up comedy CD's and videos and specials and stuff like that. I don't have any real goals in terms of stardom.
DJ: Great question (laughs), move back in with my folks, maybe nothing.

Will there be another season?
MM: As far as I know there is another season. I don't know if it's all confirmed or anything. But I got word that there is another season for next year.

How did you convince the Comedy Network to send you to Europe?
DJ: Isn't that amazing? That was actually our production company, they said "yeah, there's some amazing thing going on in Europe, and we simply must go!" The trick is we didn't have to pay anyone on staff. So we just moved money around.

Will there ever be Buzz action figures?
MM: People have been asking for that, but I don't see how we'd pull it off. But people have been asking that for a couple years now. Would we have just Daryn and Mo or would we have like Fluff E. The Hip-Hop Bunny characters or stuff like that.
DJ: That'd be amazing. Probably everyone's too lazy to get it going. We've been talking about putting out a DVD for like four years. I would love action figures but I don't know how to make them.

Who's sexier: Mikhail Gorbachev or Henry Kissinger?
MM: Neither.
DJ: I gotta go with Kissinger. It's that cute voice; it's throaty, plus those glasses.

Who's your date to the Oscars?
MM: Have to get to the Oscars first. Don't plan on going so if I was able to go I wish I could take Halle Berry with me if she wasn't married.
DJ: Well my girlfriends in New York, so I'll be going out with Palmela.

Palmela Anderson?
DJ: Palmela, my left Palmela.

If all else fails do you think you'll end off your career in Vegas?
MM: I'd play Vegas yeah.
DJ: To be honest with you that'd be amazing.

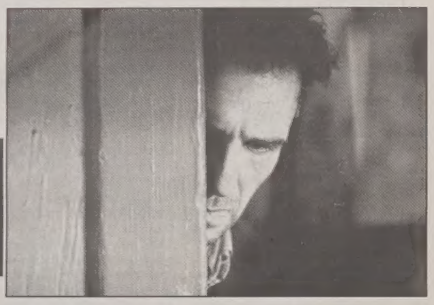
Would you open for Wayne Newton or Englebert Humperdink?
MM: Wayne Newton. For some reason that just sticks out in my head. That's the best way to go.
DJ: I gotta go with Newton. As fans we gotta be.

Authors P.S.: Mo had totally forgotten that there even was a U of T in Scarborough. So have we Mo, so have we.

reviews

Cronenberg spins a lovely web

Just not the most fascinating



Film: Spider
Director: David Cronenberg
Starring: Ralph Fiennes, Gabriel Burne, Miranda Richardson, Lynn Redgrave
Rating while in theatre: ★★½☆☆
Rating a few days later: ★★★½☆

Keith Friedlander
Arts Editor

Sometimes a movie can have a number of qualities working in its favour and still result in disappointment. I'm still trying to figure out whether or not Cronenberg's latest movie *Spider* qualifies as such a disappointment.

Spider is the story of a man (Ralph Fiennes) who is recently released from a mental hospital and living in a half-way house in London's east end. Surrounded by other eccentric sociopaths who live in a silent fear of the outside world, Spider struggles to get by under the domination of an oppressive old nurse. With some resolve to recover and leave the house, Spider seeks to come to an understanding of his past. Scrawling in a journal while cooped up in his room, he relives the days of his childhood as a voyeur, watching the conflict of his temperamental father (Gabriel Byrne) and submissive mother (Miranda Richardson). These memories, mixed with flashbacks of his days in the mental hospital and his wanderings around the city slowly unravel the mystery of Spider's condition.

From a technical standpoint, Spider is a wonderful piece of filmmaking. The performances of Byrne and Richardson are emotive and affecting and make it easy to sink into the scenario of Spider's youth. Fiennes' shuffling, mumbling and slow gaze portrays Spider's slow understanding and hesitant intentions wonderfully. The dirty, smoke filled streets of London's east side creates a wonderful atmosphere for exploration of a mind bent out of shape. The course of the plot was intelligent, with the transitions of flashbacks and present action carefully designed to reveal the layers of Spider's trauma.

However, the movie suffers severely in other places. Although the course of the plot is well thought out, the slow pace of the action can give way to a tedium that will ruin some scenes. While the style of the movie is enjoyable it fails to break any true innovations and thus fails to support the weight of the film when the story drags on. Finally and most disappointingly, the course of the movie is rather predictable. In the end, there's nothing incredibly fascinating about where *Spider* goes or how it gets there, other than the amount of time it takes. Leaving the theatre one might rightly feel disappointed in the experience.

But the more I reflect on this movie, the more I consider the story as a whole and the true effectiveness of its arrangement, the harder it is to completely devalue *Spider* for failing to stun me at any point. It is a well acted, thoughtfully conceived and psychologically stimulating piece of theatre that just happens to move slowly in an expected direction. I reflect fondly on Spider, I'm glad I saw it. I just don't think I'm going to see it again. As to whether or not I would suggest it, that is a question of patience and appreciation of the viewer.

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life

Image by Derek Chow

Memories of Kingwell

Katie-Raines Goldie

"Don't you just hate it when you open the fridge there's nothing but caviar and champagne?" Although fourth year student Katarina Kuruc may not have remembered anything else about that lecture, she certainly remembered when Dr. Mark Kingwell, one of U of T's most memorable and well-known philosophy professors, made this comment during one of her classes, about the state of his fridge. But up until recently, there was a good chance that memories would be the only thing we'd have because we almost lost him to King's College in Halifax. Dr. Kingwell had thrown his hat in for a gig as their president, but fortunately for us, King's went with Dr. William Barker. Dr. Barker, who is chair of Memorial University's English department, also happens to have a great picture of him posing with a statue's rear end on his webpage.

Mark Kingwell was the youngest of the three candidates (and probably the only one with a tattoo) who stood for the presidential seat at King's. Despite his relative youth, Dr. Kingwell certainly has the qualifications: his large collection of framed degrees and published books would have made moving his office to Halifax a daunting task. The other candidate was Dalhousie law professor Bruce Archibald, who is sadly lacking in photos of him with sculpted bums.

But the fears of Dr. Kingwell's possible departure likely prompted the most concern from his loyal female following. They sit in the front row of his classes, always read his column in the *National Post*, and religiously attend his numerous speaking engagements and conferences to get their Kingwell fix. Barton S. Wong, a literary studies undergrad noted "the propensity of females to gather around professor Kingwell, especially when he was noting special events at which he appeared. For example, when he gave out little bookmarks advertising his lecture at the OCAD a veritable mob of people mostly of the female persuasion seemed to storm the stage in eagerness to receive the precise information of where the lecture was being held." Dr. Kingwell's following clearly aren't shy about their enthusiasm. One student asked him to pose for a photo with him, another, as the *National Post* reported, told Dr. Kingwell that she has "a pact with my girlfriends that whoever we have sex with, we'll think of you." The *National Post* article also reported that a number of female students sitting in the front row of one of his classes wrote, "I Love You Mark," with marker across their eyelids.

Anyone who has taken one of his classes knows just how quirky and entertaining the experience can be. Jordan Nadel, a U of T grad recalls, "He would always look over to this spot on the wall where he assumed a clock would be. But there was no clock. So after we all started noticing him glancing over at the wall, he decided to draw a clock on the wall with chalk." The chalk clock remained there for the rest of the term. Nadel continues, "He also used to hate having people arrive late to his classes." That's putting it mildly as philosophy student Sean Chambers recalls, "He would pause his lecture every time a student arrived late, and stare at the poor person as they moved from the door - inevitably made even more awkward because the door never shut properly - through the classroom, struggled to find an empty seat and finally sat down. Waiting an extra couple seconds for dramatic effect, he would then resume, having left the student feeling about an inch tall." Dr. Kingwell is not only particular about the clock and lateness but about his lecture table as well. Upon entering the class, he would find great pleasure in perfectly aligning his table with the edge of the stage upon which it sat.

As well as strange and funny incidents in class, Dr. Kingwell sprinkles his lectures with quirky personal stories. One such story, which he recently retold on CBC radio, involved, to the grand titillation of his female following, a near-naked Dr. Kingwell running down the street. Apparently Dr. Kingwell, who made it known that he sleeps in the nude, was awoken by footsteps by his bed. Realising that he was being robbed, he jumped up, put on boxers and chased the thief into the street. Upon catching up to him, Dr. Kingwell said that he had an "ontological and existential crisis" as he could do nothing about the situation.

But Dr. Kingwell is known for being aesthetically pleasing, clothed or otherwise. Margaret Lam, a second year student, remembers Dr. Kingwell's lecture about the well-dressed subculture of Teddy Boys. "...they had side-burns, not so much unlike mine..." he said with a grin on his face. Katarina Kuruc, a semiotics student laughs while recalling "his constant references to 'the Jag' and his expensive Italian suits."

Even outside of class, Dr. Kingwell has achieved intellectual celebrity status. He can often be seen on television, radio or in print more than once a week as well as at all the important parties. The true mark of his celebrity status, however, was *Good Magazine's* week dedicated to Dr. Kingwell. *Kingwell Week* was a snarky series of fictional stories involving our hero in various amusing situations. The favourite seems to be "Palming Mark Kingwell", in which he gets "palmed" (Elan Mastai writes: "'Palming' is the act of cupping a man's testicles in your hand in public in such a way that the act appears to be accidental) at various hipster intellectual events and locations.

Dr. Kingwell's celebrity status, style, newspaper column and female following certainly gave him something the other candidates didn't have.

The Garbage Fairies Are Just Pretend

Rob Chung
Undergound Staff

Once upon a time, someone very intelligent from Rubbermaid or some other plastics company invented large receptacles that would, in theory, contain our garbage. The idea was that garbage should be placed into these receptacles, which would keep all refuse together and contained. When these containers are filled, a person could then take them and further dump the waste in a place well away from our living areas, and we would not have to live in our own filth. Remember that Simpsons episode where Homer and Bart make garbage angels in their family room? The idea with garbage cans and other garbage related-containers was to avoid that. The effort to find a garbage can and throw one's waste out is all that it takes for us to live in an environment clean of free-flying litter. But alas, it seems that here at Scarborough Campus, with our supposed intellectual status (being university students and all) do not know understand this simple, essential concept, or are too lazy to bother using the various receptacles for garbage.

Instead, people like to leave empty coffee cups, pita wrappers, and cigarette butts anywhere that is convenient. Half-empty pop cans and those pizza-shaped plates cover most of the tables in the few study areas in the school. Though there is no shortage of garbage cans in the school, people still do not use them, expecting magic garbage fairies to clean up after them.

There are no garbage fairies.

There is, however, a hardworking maintenance staff at the school, a staff that probably doesn't feel like picking up after grown adults. The maintenance staff does a wonderful job cleaning up the garbage that litters the school, but in all fairness to them, garbage cans are not technologically advanced machines that only they can master. Indeed, it takes a few extra seconds for any person with a bagel wrapper in their hands to walk over to a garbage can, and place that garbage into the can. Sounds simple? It is.

Perhaps what is needed is yet another academic course that teaches the young, great minds of today how to dispose of their trash in garbage cans of different shapes, sizes and colors. The students would be taught the importance of keeping the areas that surround them garbage-free. People who take the course would be taught the differences between a garbage can and a recycling bin, and how the picture on the front of the blue bin with a pop can means that only pop cans go inside; not pop cans and other pieces of garbage. They would be taught that litter is really not that nice, that garbage has a home - not on the ground, or left on tables and chairs, but inside the wonderful receptacles that are placed in convenient locations all around the school. The last thing any of us needs is to be walking around campus on a windy day and to have a half-eaten donut fly in our face (it happens more often than you think), or to trip on an empty pop bottle walking down any one of the staircases. And in the summer, the grounds people do a really decent job with the landscaping in the front of the school. Little ornamental pieces of garbage really don't make the plants look that much better. In short, for all of those anonymous litter bugs, smarten the hell up, and throw your trash in the garbage.

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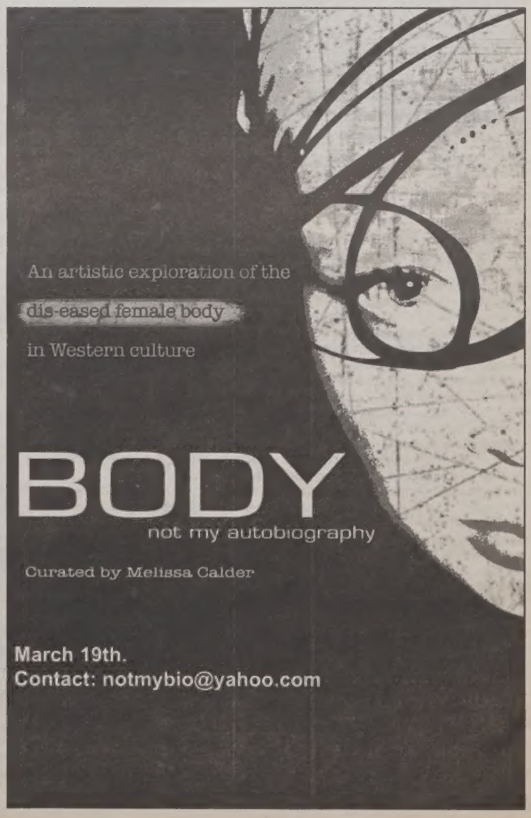


Trading Spaces Horrorscope

Frog in my Throat

Merika I. Ramundo

The rules are simple. Two sets of neighbours have two days to makeover a room in each others' houses. Each house shares the services of one carpenter and is matched with one designer. Both groups can spend no more than $1,000 on each room. You've probably guessed what I am alluding to - The Learning Channel's Trading Spaces. Who would have guessed that this TLC show would have become such a cult phenomenon?

The popularity of Trading Spaces doesn't stem so much from the premise of the show as it does from the dynamic that is created from the participants, designers and carpenters in each episode. What makes audiences hooked are the ways in which each team works together over the course of two days and whether all this effort will be well received or just sobbed over when the homeowners actually see what is done to their room. Each episode brings with it a new set of obstacles, a new set of designers and a new set of homeowners. Its formula is fresh, entertaining and, like a soap opera, has its drama, conflicts, characters and of course climax. Watch out Y & R, make way for B & D (Black & Decker) -- renovation is sexy!

Let's face it people -- there is more to this show than just decorating. I know that there are some of you out there watching to see if Doug will really get away with sipping that lemonade while his crew is painting up a storm. And let's admit this now or forever hold our power tools -- there are still more of you wanting to see the very hot, very now Ty Pennington screwing and nailing -- wood that is. All the people that I talk to not only watch the show adamantly but are actually attached to specific designers and carpenters that help to add a touch of flair (or despair) to each room. People even have favorite and well, not-so favorite designers and will fight to the death to defend their designer's honor. I have thought about this long and hard and the only explanation that I could come up with is that the attachment my friends and I share for our respective designers is rooted in the ways in which we perceive two things: compatibility amongst personality types coupled with individual tastes for a personalized aesthetic beauty in our material and ideological worlds.

I know for a fact that I would never let Hilda design my room because she might end up plastering rubber tires on my walls and that's just not my bag of tea. I also know that I would let Frank design my children's playroom but never my bedroom because his designs are so colorful and whimsical that I don't think that my retinas could support looking at the huge mural of a Mexican sunset. And finally, I would not hesitate to go shopping for jeans with Genevieve while partaking in a martini extravaganza with Vern after he designed, built and furnished my dream house……he is, after all, an architect.

Don't get me wrong, I wholeheartedly believe that a certain type of person would enjoy Doug's sadistic tendencies or Laurie's southern belle manner but I certainly don't. So what does that say about me? What does that say about the Underground readers who are infatuated with a certain designer, host or carpenter on Trading Spaces? Your Trading Spaces Horrorscopes await you -- read on.

If you like……

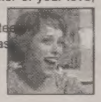
Frank Bielec

A School-House Rock fan, you are a colorful person and your wild imagination often gets you into trouble. You are always tripping, be it on drugs, food or just plain ol' adrenaline. Watch out for pot holes in your life -- they are not legal yet.

Favorite Book: Tales from the City
Favorite Movie: Wizard of Oz
Favorite Food: Spaghetti & Meatballs
Favorite Song: Rainbow Connection

Paige Davis

You are perky and definitely a morning person. Your curiosity may get the better of you and your cat. You enjoy sunshine. You do not care for politics but are politically correct at all times. You can spell potato and that's a good thing. White may be the color of your wedding dress but it is certainly not the color of your love, you Celine Dion at heart, you.



Favorite Book: Lucky by Danielle Ste
Favorite Movie: Beauty and the Beas
Favorite Food: Apple Pie
Favorite Song: God Bless America

Genevieve Gorder

You go with the flow. You let things around you inspire even though you foot fetish might drive people away and into someone else"s arches.

Favorite Book: Hitchiker"s Guide to th
Favorite Movie: Easy Rider
Favorite Food: Meat & Potatoes
Favorite Song: Welcome to the Jungle

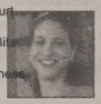
Laurie Hickson-Smith

You are precise, prim, proper and perhaps a prude. You are alliterate but would never show it because you have your pride and prejudice. You can't help falling in love with Elvis and place cards in no particular order.

Favorite Book: Gone with the Wind
Favorite Movie: Gone with the Wind
Favorite Food: Shrimp stir-fry with a "punch" of rice to add color
Favorite Song: Old Man River

Amy Wynn-Pastor

You are dependable. You like taking risks with your finances and often play the stock market only to find that the cattle just aren't as mad as they used to be. You are very competitive and are in a constant search for ways to boost your ratings. You may want to try participating in wet t-shirt contests this week so as to draw X-Box beach volleyball aficionados to your court.



Favorite Book: Boom, Bust & Echo
Favorite Movie: Debbie Does Drill Bit
Favorite Food: Animal Crackers
Favorite Song: Taking Care of Busines

Ty Pennington

You are hot and enjoy showing people your hotness. You are a natural joker but you often complain because you are too hot. You are a dreamer, a real "Zen master" -- and hot. You enjoy riding mechanical bulls -- in the rain -- on hot September nights -- naked.

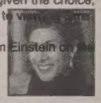
Favorite Book: The Hot Spot
Favorite Movie: Some Like It Hot
Favorite Food: Hot Dog
Favorite Song: Hot Child in the City

Hilda Santo-Tomas

You enjoy bleaching your upper lip, as stiff as it is. The avant-gardist of the bunch, you always take two things that should not be intertwined and well, intertwine them. This could be disastrous for your black, beat poet get-up frame of mind.

Favorite Book: Naked Lunch by: William S. Burroughs

Favorite Movie: Blue Velvet, but if given the choice, would prefer watching performance art to vi



Favorite Food: Sushi
Favorite Song: Knee Play No. 3 from Einstein on the Beach by: Philip Glass

Douglas Wilson

If selfishness, procrastination and good old fashioned cruelty are your bag then it"s **Doug -Time**! You"ve had regrets. You"ve made a few, but you did it your way. A dominatrix never reveals his/her secrets but your safe words are

"tyrant-o-saurus sex".

Favorite Book: Oral Sadism And The Vegetarian Personality By: Glenn C. Ellenbogen
Favorite Movie: Jackass
Favorite Food: Slim-Fast
Favorite Song: Holiday by: Madonna

Vern Yip

A classic overachiever, you are the master of your domain in every sense of the word. You are the type of person who uses Matisse font in all your documents... ...tsk, tsk – so hard to read.

Favorite Book: Genius: A Mosaic Of One Hundred Exemplary Creative Minds, by: Harold Bloom
Favorite Movie: The Bicycle Thief
Favorite Food: Duck a l"orange with coquille St. Jacques sautéèed in wine and Moroccan on the side, please.

Favorite Song: Beethoven"s Fifth

Redecorate my inbox people! Write to tell me what you think: ramundoelmundo@yahoo.ca

Statements of Candidates in the Governing Council Election for Students

Full-Time Undergraduate Students, Constituency I

Ben Barry (Trinity College)
It is with honour that I declare my nomination to be your representative. **EXPERIENCE** As Head of my high school's student governing group and currently as Director of Council Relations for the Toronto Youth Cabinet at City Hall, I ensure that student issues are brought to the forefront of debate. In second year, I am studying political science, management, and women's studies. **ISSUES** Stopping the deregulation of tuition fees and monitoring how university funds are used needs active attention. I sincerely ask for your vote in order to ensure that our voice is not only heard, but also acted upon.

Adam Borovilos (Victoria College)
Adam Borovilos is a third-year Victoria College student studying in both the Commerce and Computer Science programs. It is his hope to raise awareness in the minds of students of the important decisions made by the Governing Council. By providing a calm, balanced viewpoint, Adam will offer an accurate representation of student body opinion to the Council. His decision to run is based on a sincere personal belief in making a positive contribution on behalf of the entire undergraduate student community. He looks forward to serving you.

Mike Foderick (University College)
Former policy aide to three Toronto City Councillors, and Chair of The Varsity Newspaper Board, I brought the 12% TTC Metropass discount to UofT. As a member of Governing Council I will: 1) Be the most active opponent of tuition increases of any kind, leveraging my experience to fi ght the deregulation of professional programs 2) Push hard to make student positions on GC Boards elected, not appointed. 3) Lead efforts to make our three campuses as green as possible 4) Only be an email away as your voice at Governing Council. www.mikefoderick.ca.

Shane O'Dowd-Rutherford (Transitional Year Program)
Our university is a collection of many diverse communities and interests. Working together we can achieve a level of success unsurpassed by any other academic institution. Equity and diversity are the hallmarks of a great institution, with the release of the Green Papers I believe we can begin tapping the creative energies and different points of view of our diverse student body and with this we can collectively achieve higher levels of student satisfaction and fi nd new ways to enrich the university experience. I will work towards leveraging our strength as a collective to reduce costs for students.

Leo Trottier (University College)
Actively involved in student government at the residence, college, and University levels, Leo is known for his leadership and dedication to improving the student experience for his fellow undergraduates. An accomplished second-year Cognitive Science student at UC, Leo is currently a Director on SAC, and sits on the Executive of his House and Residence councils. If elected to Governing Council, Leo's goals will include stopping tuition fee deregulation, recognizing the University's diversity by creating more space for student groups, reducing the effective cost of student housing, and strengthening the University's commitment to environmental responsibility. For more information, visit www.leotrottier.com

Faran Umar-Khitab (Trinity College)
No statement provided.

Adam Watson (University of Toronto at Scarborough)
Adam Watson – Truly proud of his accomplishments and endeavours, Adam has served the community in a number of capacities. Elected as Student Trustee to the Simcoe County District School Board, Adam was responsible for representing the views and best interests of more than 50,000 students. In addition, Watson was elected the youngest-ever Provincial Director to the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA) and the Chair of the Barrie OSPCA. Taking great pride in saying that he is a management co-op student at the University of Toronto at Scarborough, Adam wishes to eventually pursue a career in politics.

Full-Time Undergraduate Students, Constituency II

Muhammad Basil Ahmad (Pharmacy)
has served on the Governing Council, University Affairs Board, Planning & Budget Committee, Academic Appeals Board, and recently on the Students' Administrative Council and Discipline Appeals Board. He was also Chair of the Special Committee that drafted the new Code of Student Conduct printed in your Faculty Calendar. As President of the largest student club, he is now involved with the Orientation Task Force. Many challenges await us, as the University of Toronto undergoes unparalleled expansion. RE-ELECT a student who will work assiduously to improve student life and this University's reputation for equality and diversity. Vote for the EXPERIENCED CHOICE!

Bruce Cameron (Applied Science and Engineering)
The Governing Council functions as a university-wide vehicle to engage students in shaping their education. I believe a student's educational experience in the professional faculties is best nurtured by a learning-based environment – education that is actively responsive to student needs, emphasizing the learning process over bulk delivery of material. As a GC member, I will do my utmost to increase the council's awareness of relevant curriculum and policy issues. I will collaborate with council members to ensure cohesion between resolutions and results. I will seek to foster more effi cacious governance, correlated with improving the university experience.

David Kolinsky (Law)
In an era of increased tuition and decreased accessibility, my goal is to work toward the recognition of a university education as something that all people should be able to aspire to, regardless of income or membership in any particular social group. I envision a University where students graduate not only with an education that is unsurpassed, but also with a desire to serve the greater community, which has made their educational experience possible. I am committed to representing the best interests of all students, without prejudice with regard to their academic constituency or socio-political views. Vote for David Kolinsky.

Robin Rix (Law)
Effective student representation requires an informed perspective of the university's operations and a commitment to improve the student experience.
My community involvement includes service on the provostial task force on student housing, on the law school's Faculty Council, as a don at Victoria College, and as the chair of several student governments, including SAC.
My aims for the year are to be an informed voice for professional faculty students, to increase the level of student awareness about Governing Council's decision-making process, and to co-operate closely with student governments and other stakeholders through formalized consultations and outreach activities.

Daniel Thorek (Applied Science and Engineering)
I would be honoured to be given the ability to represent our constituency as a member of the Governing Council. The position that I am running for provides one with the opportunity to dedicate oneself to carrying out some of the essential duties of the university. As an 0T4 engineering student with experience in student government, I hope that I can be presented with the opportunity to give something back to this institution.

Part-Time Undergraduate Students

Mohammed Hashim (University of Toronto at Mississauga)
As the SAC University Affairs Commissioner this year, I gained invaluable experience and insight into University governance. As the Part-time Undergraduate Representative on the Governing Council, I will use my fi nal year to accomplish the following goals.

- A tuition freeze for all undergraduate and Professional Faculties;
- An Environmental Protection Policy that will shift the University's mandate towards sustainabledevelopment
- Strengthening the relationship between the central Administration and the UTM and UTSC campuses by creating an atmosphere of constructive engagement between students on Governing Council and their Administrative counterparts.

For more information about my policies, please check: www.mohashim.com

Andrew Jochem (Woodsworth College)
My name is Andrew Jochem. I am a part-time student in the humanities. As a father of two young children, managing my own landscaping business, I can sympathise with the external stresses, apart from the pressure of academic success, that most part-time students, especially Academic Bridging students, encounter. Spiralling tuition fees are limiting access for part-time students. The classification of part-time students is being redefi ned so that they may not be eligible for OSAP in the future. Part-time students enrich our community and deserve a strong voice and representation on Governing Council.

Jeff Peters (Transitional Year Program – part-time)
I am 27, and the fi rst Part-time *Transitional Year Program* (TYP) student. I believe in free tuition for all students and I will fi ght at Governing Council to achieve this vision. As an anti-poverty activist, I believe that all students should have housing and adequate food; as such, I will work for greater access to services such as the UofT food bank. I am a peace activist and a mature student with a physical disability; I pledge to work with my fellow students to improve accessibility on all three campuses.

Chris Ramsaroop (St. Michael's College)
As a current student governor, I have been a voice for the interest of part time students. Equity, diversity and accountability must be upheld within the governance structure of UofT now! As students we must demand that our voices are heard in the areas of fi nancial aid, housing, student space and diversity. Let's send a message to the administration that they are here to provide an accessible education to all. As such I will continue to demand more participation from students and the greater community so that decisions are refl ective of our needs. www.utoronto.ca/scc/gc.

Fern Turgeon (Woodsworth College)
I am a single mother with two children and I work full-time in advertising. Since completing the Academic Bridging Program, I am pursuing a degree in English and taking courses in Writing, Rhetoric, and Critical Analysis. As a member of Governing Council, I intend to give voice to the needs of parttime students who are a signifi cant cohort of the student population. Some of the issues I would like to address include providing ample study space, availability of evening courses, and comprehensive support systems to enable students to be part of the academic community.

Graduate Student Constituency I

Sachin Aggarwal (Rotman School of Management)
No statement provided.

Frank Belluardo (Italian Studies)
Objective:
- To liaise between Constituency I graduate students & Governing Council.
- To strengthen rapport between students and the administrative body; and for student issues to be heard.

Currently:
- 1st year UofT Masters Student & TA
- Current President GSA Italian Studies.

Past experience (at York University):
- Chair, York Orientation Directors Association
- Chair, Vanier College Alumni Association
- President, Vanier College Council
- Orientation Chair, Vanier College
- Vice-President, Classical Studies Students Association
- Treasurer, Vanier College Council
- Founder/President YWFA
- Chair, YFS Elections Committee
- Treasurer, York Is.U

Graduate Student Constituency II

Azadeh Emam (Medicine)
As graduate students, we are an essential part of teaching, research and future of this institution. As a result, our interests should be considered in major decisions made for our university. With my experience in cultural organizations both on and off campus, and as the former president of the Nutritional Sciences Students' Association, I am highly motivated to be the voice of graduate students on the Governing Council and to represent our interest. www.azadeh.ca

Françoise Ko (Pharmacology)
As a former governor and an active student representative working with various campus student groups I wish to continue infl uentially representing graduate students to:

- Stop tuition increases
- Develop strategies to ensure time to graduation within allocated funded years
- Index the funding guarantee to refl ect true cost of living in Toronto
- Create more affordable housing for graduate students and families

As well as ensure the University:

- Maintains all commitments to accessibility (physical, fi nancial, and otherwise) and promotes diversity
- Remains accountable to students – fi nancial, academic, and otherwise
- Does not off-load fees onto students

http://individual.utoronto.ca/FrancoiseGC2003

This advertisement is paid for by the Governing Council. It does not necessarily refl ect the opinions of The Underground, its staff or UTSC students.

diversions

diversions

by
Kelly Lisle
& Ayshia Degia

Despite all the snow and coldness, spring is on its way and what better way to celebrate the coming of the warmth and the flowers and the sunshine than with everyone's favourite springtime toy? That's right boys and girls, paper pinwheels!

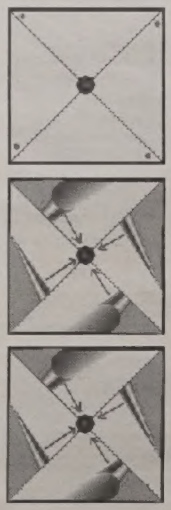
Have fun with this one, there's plenty of potential for interesting pinwheels.

Pinwheels

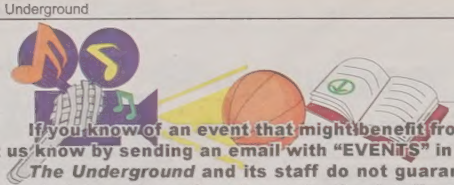
Materials

- Construction or other heavy paper
- An unsharpened pencil or other stick
- Pin with a large head, such as a corsage pin
- 1 bead such as a 1/4" wooden bead or pony bead
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Quarter

1. Cut a square piece of paper (the larger the paper square, the larger your pinwheel will be).
2. Fold the square in half to form a triangle, matching the corners
3. Unfold the square and fold another triangle, matching the opposite corners.
4. Unfold the paper. You should have 2 folded lines forming an X in the center of your paper.
5. Use the quarter to draw a circle in the center of the paper.
6. Cut the paper on the folded lines to the drawn circle Do not cut all the way to the center!
7. Gently curl the corners marked with a red dot toward the center of the square (do not fold them!) Poke the pin through each corner and pushing the corner toward the head of the pin. Then stick the pin through the center of the paper.
8. After pushing the pin through all the corners, slide the bead on the pin behind the pinwheel and then push the point of the pin into the side of the pencil eraser or top of the stick you will be using.



Note: the instructions for this lovely fun toy were stolen from the following webpage.
http://www.fortunecity.com/millenium/sherwood/504/midcraft.html



events

If you know of an event that might benefit from a little bit of buzz (i.e. Ticketmaster is not involved) let us know by sending an email with "EVENTS" in the subject line to: *undergnd@utsc.utoronto.ca*

***The Underground* and its staff do not guarantee any information printed in this listing. Do to the often sketchy nature of such events, the details are liable to change, or be outright false. Make use of any contact information provided beforehand.... and otherwise, have fun!**

March 6-26 Monday-Sunday 24 hours a day Shinobu Akimoto "My life is bigger than 641 square feet." A project test run at the Fly Gallery, 1172 Queen W.

March 10-13 AIDS Awareness Week. Free Stuff For All.

March 12 10AM-3PM Aids Awareness in Meeting Place. Information Booths from student groups.

March 12 6-8PM Deconstructing AIDS seminar. Council Chambers, S-402. Refreshments provided.

March 12-15 8PM An evening of theater about theater. This is a Play and The Actor's Nightmare. Directed by Paula Sperdakos. $10 general/ $8 students. Tickets on sale in Meeting Place and through Cultural Affairs Office, B306.

March 12 7-10PM Social Life gallery opening at Gallery Neubacher, 81 St. Nicholas St., behind Manulife Center near Younge and Bloor.

March 13 5PM Art for AIDS. Student Village Center. Food, dance, visual art, poetry.

March 13 8PM art ATTACK. An evening of aesthetic activism. Poster Making and taping party. (S&M?). The Cat's Eye, Victoria College. Free food and drinks. http: //members.rogers.com/vues/.

March 13 3:30-5:30PM Networking Thursday: Arts and Culture. Details at the Career Centre: 416.978.8001.

March 13 7:30-9PM Random House Student Award in Writing. Finalists in the School of Continuing Studies creative writing contest read from their entries. Arbor Room in the Hart House.

March 14 8PM Gallery opening. Sis boom Bah presents two photography-based art shows. 1114 Queen W.

March 14 7:30PM A Way of Making-performance art piece by Fado, a First Nations residency art project. Ontario College of Art and Design, 100 McCaul St., Room 235.

March 14 Uberzone. Guvernment's Orange room.

March 15 10PM WOMP presents March Breaks at the Labyrinth Lounge, 298 Brunswick Street, at Bloor.

March 15 12 noon Stop the War on Iraq protest and parade. Meet outside the U.S. Consulate 360 University Ave.

March 16 War and Resistance: Mobilizing against Imperialism. A day long conference presented by the Toronto New Socialist Group. 11-12:30 The Politics of Oil: Hamid Sodefi, Terisa Turner, Leigh Brownhill. 1: 30-3:00 Feminism and War with Sharzhad Mojab and Frances Piper.
3:30-5:00 Beyond a World of War & Terror with Tony Tracy. OISE Rm. 422. 252 Bloor St.

March 17 1PM Darren O'Donnell, playwright and director. Free, Leigha Lee Brown Theater.

March 17 12 noon The myth of sustainable development. Speaker: Dr. Charles Hall, SUNY, Syracuse. Room 432, Ramsay Wright Zoological Laboratories.

March 17 7-10PM Open Mike Night. Staff, faculty, and students encouraged to come and participate in the 8th annual Open Mike Night in the Attic. Presented by the Cultural affairs Literary Committee.

March 18 7:15-8:15PM Mindfulness Meditation. For beginners and the experienced. Donation suggested. Taught by Philip Starkman, a psychotherapist and lifestyles counselor with 38 years of experience, with years of intensive practise in monasteries and shrams. Toronto School of Theology, 47 Queen's Park Crescent East. www.philipvstarkman.com.

March 20-22 8:30 PM Arraymusic presents Scratch! A three-day music festival of experimental and avant-garde contemporary music composition. 75 Portland St., near Bathurst and King. More info at www.arraymusic.com <http://www.arraymusic.com>.

March 29 Toronto Comic Arts Festival. Too much info to print here, go to www.torontocomics.com/tcaf

March 29 TorontoPoets.com presents Love 2 Hate, a showcase of urban poetry. 7pm Seeley Hall, 6 Hoskin Ave. Visit www.torontopoets.com for info about tickets and the like.

March 29 The World of Drum and Bass! At the Kool Haus. DJ's SS, Shy FX, L Double, Twisted Individual, alongside MC Skibadee, plus all the standard Toronto DJ schlock.